

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Works	(2) MEETING DATE 8/28/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Courtney Howard, Project Manager (805) 781-1016	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve an agreement for Professional Engineering Services with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. in the amount of \$211,238 for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model Update and authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to sign amendments to the agreement in an amount not to exceed the contingency fund amount of \$21,100. District 1 and 5.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board, acting as the Board of Supervisors for the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve and execute an Engineering Consulting Services Agreement (Agreement) with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (Geoscience) in the amount of \$211,238 for professional engineering services for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model Update;</li> <li>2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to sign amendments to the Agreement in an amount not to exceed the contingency fund amount of \$21,100; and</li> </ol>			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Flood Control Fund 19	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 0019001198		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP Attached	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date 3/27/12; A-17	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW  <i>Nikki J. Schmidt</i>			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 1 - District 5 -			

Reference: 12AUG28-C-1

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works  
Courtney Howard, Project Manager

VIA: Dean Benedix, Utilities Division Manager

DATE: 8/28/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve an agreement for Professional Engineering Services with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. in the amount of \$211,238 for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model Update and authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to sign amendments to the agreement in an amount not to exceed the contingency fund amount of \$21,100. District 1 and 5.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board, acting as the Board of Supervisors for the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District):

1. Approve and execute an Engineering Consulting Services Agreement (Agreement) with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (Geoscience) in the amount of \$211,238 for professional engineering services for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Model Update;
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to sign amendments to the Agreement in an amount not to exceed the contingency fund amount of \$21,100; and

### **DISCUSSION**

On March 22, 2011, your Board certified a Level of Severity III for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Basin) and approved recommended actions in the Resource Capacity Study (RCS), one of which was to continue studies of the Basin using an updated computer model. A computer model is a key tool for simulating Basin response to alternative groundwater management strategies and evaluating the ability of each to stabilize groundwater levels.

The existing computer model of the Basin, developed in 2005 by the District, consists of data from 1981 to 1997. It is important to update the model to reflect current conditions prior to using it for Basin studies to ensure that information generated from its use is defensible and acceptable to the District and stakeholders.

Your Board adopted the Basin Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) via Resolution No. 2012-73 on March 27, 2012, and established a Blue Ribbon Committee to implement the GMP. At that time, consistent with the RCS and implementation activities identified in the GMP, your Board directed staff to proceed with updating the computer model of the Basin in coordination with the Blue Ribbon Committee. Upon your Board's approval of the Agreement, work will be initiated on the Basin computer model update.

The scope of work for Tasks A through H of the recommended Agreement, totaling \$211,238, includes the following:

- updating the water balance,
- refining the understanding of Basin characteristics, and
- ensuring the model is calibrated, in order to develop an up-to-date, accepted computer model of the Basin.

The scope of work also includes developing two future land-use scenarios in coordination with the Blue Ribbon Committee. The model will then be run under these future demand scenarios to evaluate the response of the Basin with known future water supplies (i.e. current participant allocations of Nacimiento water and groundwater) and establish a baseline upon which to evaluate future alternative strategies to stabilize levels.

Authorization for the Director of Public Works to sign amendments for a not to exceed contingency amount of \$21,100 would allow for effective project management should additional efforts be needed for addressing stakeholder input and producing an accepted computer model of the Basin.

### Subsequent Work Efforts

The scope of work in the attached Agreement is the next step in technical evaluations of the Paso Robles Groundwater basin and is needed to update baseline data from the current version of the model, which is only current through 1997. Although other graphical illustrations have been developed and presented in public meetings to show changes in groundwater levels since 1997, updating the model will enhance the technical ability to predict future changes in groundwater levels under various demand and new supply scenarios.

In order to seek funding for future use of the model, and pursuant to your Board's authorization on June 19, 2012, a grant application to fund the evaluation of the alternative future strategies was recently submitted to the Department of Water Resources via the Local Groundwater Assistance Program. While notification of grant award is not anticipated until spring of 2013, the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Basin GMP has formed a "Solutions Subcommittee" to identify, review and rank the groundwater management strategies on a preliminary basis. The top-ranked strategies will then be further evaluated technically using the (soon to be) updated basin model. Per your Board's direction, staff will be providing your Board with a report on the Blue Ribbon Committee's efforts status, and other staff efforts, in December of 2012.

## Consultant Selection Process

In accordance with the “Central Services Board Approved Policy on Contracting for Services and Purchasing,” proposals for the project were solicited and evaluated by a selection committee, which included both County and City of Paso Robles staff. The committee selected Geoscience Support Services, Inc. as the most qualified firm to perform Project services. The District negotiated the Agreement hereby presented to your Board for approval.

## **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

Prior to initiating the proposal solicitation process, the general scope of the computer model update project was vetted with the Blue Ribbon Committee. The Agreement includes meeting with the Blue Ribbon Committee at key points in the project. The District’s Water Resources Advisory Committee has been provided updates on Basin issues and activities.

County Counsel has reviewed the Agreement as to legal form and effect.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The professional engineering services that Geoscience Support Services, Inc. will be providing will be on a time and materials basis for a not to exceed amount of \$211,238. With your Board’s approval, the Director of Public Works, or his designee, will be authorized to sign amendments to the Agreement in an amount not to exceed a contingency fund amount of \$21,100. The total not to exceed amount will be \$232,338.

The Agreement with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. will be funded through the Flood Control Fund 19 budget (Paso Robles Groundwater Basin). The overall approved budget in Flood Control Fund 19 is \$308,800. The proposed contract is more than the “line-item estimate” developed by staff when budgets were prepared as a result of expanding the consultant’s scope to accommodate additional stakeholder review and input for developing future land-use scenarios. At this time, staff still believes that the total budget can be managed within the approved amount of \$308,800. In addition, the State Department of Water Resources has recommended that the District’s Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Grant be awarded funding. The grant will provide \$50,000 towards these efforts. At the time the grant is awarded, staff will return with a budget adjustment to recognize the unanticipated revenues. If in the unlikely event grant funding is not awarded, staff will manage the contract to stay within the overall budget.

## **RESULTS**

Approval of the recommended action will provide for the professional engineering services to update the computer model of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and subsequently evaluate the Basin’s response to alternative management strategies. Evaluating management strategies for the Basin will contribute to the County’s goals of promoting a healthy, livable, prosperous and well-governed community.

File: CF 500.132.01 Groundwater Study - Paso Robles Management Plan

Reference: 12AUG28-C1

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Vicinity Map
2. Agreement for Professional Engineering Services